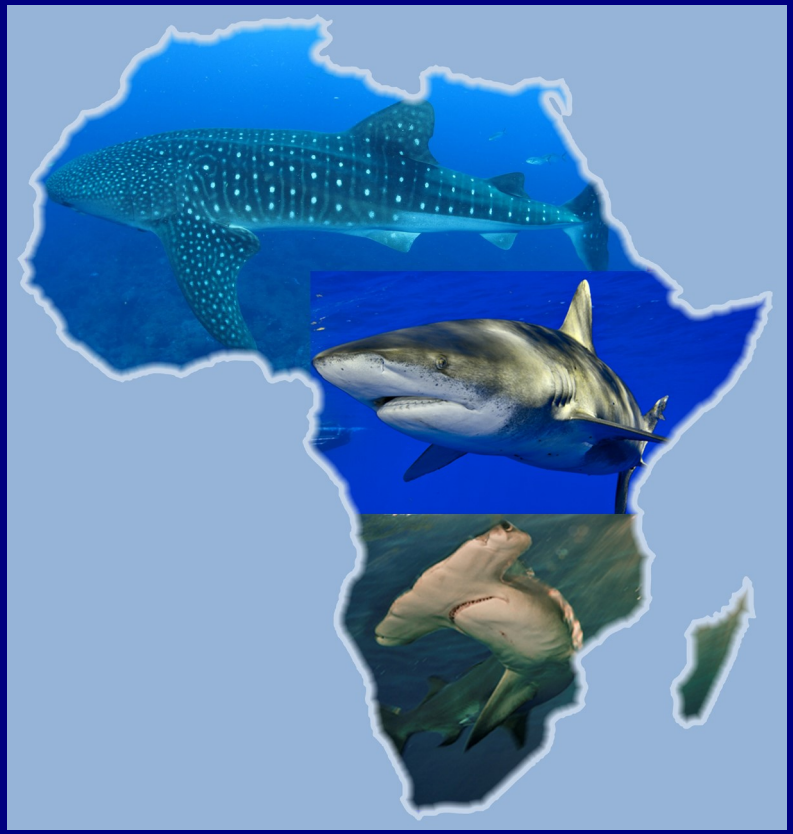

Guide to West African Shark and Ray Species Listed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

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Sources: www.cites.org - www.iucnredlist.org. Updated in December 2016

THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES)

What is CITES?

CITES is a multilateral environmental agreement under which Parties regulate international trade in plants and animals of conservation concern to ensure that such trade does not threaten their survival. The CITES treaty was initially signed in 1973 and entered into force in 1975. 183 member countries ("Parties") have signed the CITES treaty, which now protects more than 34,000 species of animals and plants.

What does CITES regulate?

CITES regulates international trade in wildlife. It does not regulate domestic trade in wildlife. International trade includes import, export, re-export, and introduction from the sea (or transportation into a member country of a specimen of a listed species taken on the high seas). CITES does not cover all species; it regulates international trade only in species listed in its Appendices. An updated list of the species in the Appendices is available on the CITES website at *http://www.cites.org/eng/app/index.shtml.* Trade in CITES species includes, among other things, trade in live animals and plants, food products, traditional medicine, leather goods, timber, wooden instruments or furniture, roots or essence, and raw or processed wildlife products.

What species are covered by CITES?

CITES protects about 5,600 species of animals and 30,000 species of plants. These are listed in three lists (the CITES Appendices) depending in part on their conservation status and on the urgency of their

need for protection from international trade. The Appendices can include whole groups of species such as cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises), primates, big cats, sea turtles, parrots, corals, cacti and orchids, individual species, subspecies, or geographically separate populations. Listings for plant species, or listings in Appendix III, can be limited to specific parts, products, items or derivatives (such as timber, roots, essence, seeds). Some listings are governed by annotations that may restrict trade to populations in certain countries or regions, allow trade only in certain products, or impose other modifications or limitations.

Species listed in **Appendix I** are those that "are threatened with extinction and are or may be affected by trade" (CITES Article II.1). Appendix I species cannot be traded internationally for primarily commercial purposes, though they can be exported and imported for non-commercial purposes. CITES resolutions define an activity as commercial "if its purpose is to obtain economic benefit (whether in cash or otherwise), and is directed toward resale, exchange, provision of a service or any other form of economic use or benefit" (Resolution Conf. 5.10 (Rev. CoP 15)). International trade in Appendix I species is authorized for non-commercial purposes, but is strictly controlled through a permitting system to ensure that it is not detrimental to the survival of the species, that specimens were legally acquired, and, for live specimens, that they are so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment. CITES Appendix I contains more than 930 species, including chimpanzees, gorillas, Asian and most populations of African elephants, rhinoceroses, great whales, West African manatee, sea turtles, leopards, peregrine falcons, West African dwarf crocodiles and some species of orchids.

Species listed in **Appendix II** are those that "although not necessarily now threatened with extinction, may become so unless trade in specimens of such species is subject to strict regulation in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival" (CITES, Article II.2). Species can also be listed in Appendix II if they look like, or if their parts and products look like, other listed species or their parts and products. International trade in Appendix II species is authorized, but is strictly controlled through a permitting system to ensure that it is not detrimental to the survival of the species, that specimens were legally acquired, and, for live specimens, that they are so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury,

damage to health or cruel treatment. Appendix II contains more than 34,000 species, including most primates, most crocodile species, most parrot species, cactuses, succulent euphorbias, and most orchids.

Species in **Appendix III** are unilaterally listed by a CITES Party which regulates those species and believes that cooperation of other CITES Parties is necessary to control their trade (CITES Article II). International trade in Appendix III species is authorized if specimens were legally acquired, and, for live specimens, that they are so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment. Appendix III includes more than 140 species. Species in Appendix III include the dorcas gazelle, listed by Algeria and Tunisia, and the aardwolf, listed by Botswana; and the North African fire salamander, listed by Algeria.

How does CITES protect species?

CITES protection is based on a permitting system which aims to ensure that legal international trade is not detrimental to listed species. Issuance of valid CITES permits and certificates, and control of these documents as they accompany species in trade, are crucial safeguards to ensure that international trade is not prejudicial to CITES listed species. Permitting requirements depend on whether the species traded are included in Appendix I, II, or III, subject to certain exceptions (CITES Article VII). The issuance of CITES permits for species in Appendix I or II requires a finding of non-detriment, certifying that the transaction authorized by the CITES permit (import, export or introduction from the sea) will not harm the species.

Subject to certain exceptions (see below), trade of species in:

- Appendix I requires both an import and export permit (the import permit must be issued first);
- Appendix II requires only an export permit;
- Appendix III species requires an export permit issued by the country that listed the species or a certificate of origin for specimens originating from other CITES Parties

Introduction from the sea of species included in Appendix I or II requires the issuance of an introduction from the sea certificate, and re-export of species in Appendix I, II or III requires the issuance of a re-export certificate.

CITES does not prevent Parties from having domestic legislation with trade controls stricter than normal CITES requirements (stricter domestic measures), and some countries do so.

How is CITES implemented and enforced?

CITES relies on individual Parties for its implementation and enforcement.

Each CITES Party must designate one or more Management Authorities mainly responsible for issuing permits and certificates, deciding if exemptions to CITES apply, communicating with the CITES Secretariat and other Parties, and preparing and submitting annual trade reports. Parties must also designate one or more independent Scientific Authorities which advise the Management Authority on important technical issues such as whether the issuance of permits and certificates will be detrimental to the survival of the species, monitor the status of native Appendix II species and export data, and determine whether a facility meets the criteria for captive breeding or artificial propagation in accordance with CITES.

Customs and border control officers also play a crucial role in CITES enforcement and must, among other things, identify CITES specimens at the border to detect illegal trade, inspect shipments and CITES documentation to ensure that the CITES documents accompanying shipments are valid and correspond to the actual goods, ensure that the standards applicable to live animals transport are complied with, seize illegal specimens, and help inform the public about measures in place to conserve fauna and flora.

Contact details for national CITES authorities are posted on the CITES website at:
https://cites.org/eng/cms/index.php/component/cp

What are the exemptions to the CITES permitting requirements?

CITES Article VII provides exemptions to standard permitting requirements for:

- specimens in transit or being transshipped that have not left customs control;
- specimens that were acquired before CITES provisions applied to them (pre-Convention specimens);
- specimens that are personal or household effects;
- animals bred in captivity and artificially propagated plants (some permits may still be required);
- certain types of specimens being exchanged by registered scientists or scientific institutions;
- animals or plants forming part of a travelling collection or exhibition, such as a circus.

Where to find more information about CITES?

See list of useful websites on page 40 of this guide.

OVERVIEW OF INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA REQUIREMENTS

Specimens of CITES-listed animals or plants taken from the high seas - defined as “the marine environment not under the jurisdiction of any State” - are subject to CITES trade provisions. Parties must implement these provisions whenever an Appendix I or II specimen is taken from the high seas and transported into a State. The trade in these specimens is referred to as “introduction from the sea.”

A Framework for Implementation

At the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties held in Bangkok in March 2013, the Parties reached agreement on a new framework for implementation of CITES introduction-from-the-sea provisions. This new framework will provide certainty and consistency regarding which CITES documents are issued and which Party is responsible for issuing those documents. It is a pragmatic and effective permitting scheme for CITES specimens taken on the high seas. The new framework is contained in CITES Resolution Conf. 14.6 (Rev. CoP16), which addresses introduction from the sea.

Within the new framework, if a vessel harvests CITES-listed specimens on the high seas and delivers them to the same country in which it is flagged, Parties will treat the transaction as an introduction from the sea and issue an introduction from the sea certificate. Under this scenario, there is only one country involved in the trade (see Scenario 1).

If there is more than one country involved in the trade (the vessel that harvests the specimens delivers them to a country other than the country to which it is flagged), CITES Parties will treat the transaction as an export and require the issuance of an export permit by the country to which the harvesting vessel is flagged (see Scenario 2).

Provisions for Chartered Vessels

Some Parties expressed the desire for an exception to this permitting scheme when specimens are harvested by chartered vessels. A narrow exception, to accommodate some chartering arrangements, was incorporated into the new framework. Under the exception, when one country charters a vessel flagged to another country and that vessel harvests CITES-listed specimens on the high seas, the two countries involved could reach an agreement to allow the country that chartered the vessel to issue an introduction-from-the-sea certificate (instead of having the country to which the vessel is flagged issue an export permit). This narrow exception will only be allowed for chartering arrangements under specific conditions, including being consistent with the framework for chartering of a relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organization/ Arrangement (see Scenario 3).

Scenario 1: Ship registered in country A transports CITES specimen into country A

Ship registered in country A takes CITES Appendix-II specimen from the high seas

↓

Transports specimen into country A

↓

Action Needed
Introduction from the sea - IFS certificate issued by country A

Scenario 2: Ship registered in country A transports CITES specimen into country B

Ship registered in country A takes CITES Appendix-II specimen from the high seas

↓

Transports specimen into country B

↓

Action Needed
Export by country A - export permit issued by country A

Import by country B - export permit issued by country A presented to AND accepted by country B

Scenario 3: Country A charters a vessel registered in country B and that vessel transports CITES specimen into country A

Country A charters a vessel registered in country B that takes CITES Appendix-II specimen from the high seas

↓

Transports specimen into country A

↓

Country A and country B agree to allow country A to issue the CITES IFS certificate*

↓

Action Needed
Introduction from the sea - IFS certificate issued by country A

OVERVIEW OF CITES PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS

	Primarily commercial purposes (import)	Purposes other than primarily commercial
APPENDIX I	→ International trade **PROHIBITED**	→ International trade **ALLOWED** **EXPORT and IMPORT** → requires **import and export permits** (except for Article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment findings → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements and that facilities in importing country are suitable (live animals) **REEXPORT** → requires **import permit and re-export certificate** (except for Article VII exemptions*) → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements and that facilities in importing country are suitable (live animals) **INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA** → requires **introduction from the sea certificate** (except for Article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment finding → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements and that facilities in importing country are suitable (live animals)

	Primarily commercial purposes (import)	Purposes other than primarily commercial
APPENDIX II	→ International trade **ALLOWED** **EXPORT and IMPORT** → requires **export permit** (except for article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment finding → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals) **REEXPORT** → requires **re-export certificate** (except for Article VII exemptions*) → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals) **INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA** → requires **introduction from the sea certificate** (except for Article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment finding → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)	→ International trade **ALLOWED** **EXPORT and IMPORT** → requires **export permit** (except for Article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment finding → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals) **REEXPORT** → requires **re-export certificate** (except for Article VII exemptions*) → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals) **INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA** → requires **introduction from the sea certificate** (except for Article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment finding → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)

** In most cases Article VII exemptions require a certificate in lieu of a permit*

	Primarily commercial purposes (import)	Purposes other than primarily commercial
APPENDIX III	→ International trade **ALLOWED** **EXPORT and IMPORT** → requires an **export permit** issued by the country that listed the species in Appendix III or a **certificate of origin** issued by other Parties (except for Article VII exemptions*) → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals) **REEXPORT** → requires **re-export certificate** (except for article VII exemptions*) → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)	→ International trade **ALLOWED** **EXPORT and IMPORT** → requires an **export permit** issued by the country that listed the species in Appendix III and a **certificate of origin** issued by other Parties (except for Article VII exemptions*) → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals) **REEXPORT** → require **re-export certificate** (except for article VII exemptions*) → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)

** In most cases Article VII exemptions require a certificate in lieu of a permit*

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

PERMIT/CERTIFICATE No.
- ☐ EXPORT
- ☐ RE-EXPORT
- ☐ IMPORT
- ☐ OTHER:

Original

2. Valid until

3. Importer (name and address)

3a. Country of import

4. Exporter/re-exporter (name, address and country)

Signature of the applicant

5. Special conditions

If for live animals, this permit or certificate is valid only if the transport conditions comply with the *IATA Live Animals Regulations*; if for live plants, with the IATA *Perishable Cargo Regulations*; or, in the case of non-air transport, with the *CITES Guidelines for the Non-Air Transport of Live Wild Animals and Plants*

6. Name, address, national seal/stamp and country of Management Authority

5a. Purpose of the transaction (see reverse)

5b. Security stamp no.

	7./8. Scientific name (genus and species) and common name of animal or plant	9. Description of specimens, including identifying marks or numbers (age/sex if live)	10. Appendix no. and source (see reverse)	11. Quantity (including unit)	11a. Total exported/Quota
A	7./8.	9.	10.	11.	11a.
	12. Country of origin * Permit no. Date		12a. Country of last re-export Certificate no. Date		12b. No. of the operation ** or date of acquisition ***
B	7./8.	9.	10.	11.	11a.
	12. Country of origin * Permit no. Date		12a. Country of last re-export Certificate no. Date		12b. No. of the operation ** or date of acquisition ***
C	7./8.	9.	10.	11.	11a.
	12. Country of origin * Permit no. Date		12a. Country of last re-export Certificate no. Date		12b. No. of the operation ** or date of acquisition ***
D	7./8.	9.	10.	11.	11a.
	12. Country of origin Permit no. Date		12a. Country of last re-export Certificate no. Date		12b. No. of the operation ** or date of acquisition ***

* Country in which the specimens were taken from the wild, bred in captivity or artificially propagated (only in case of re-export)
** Only for specimens of Appendix-I species bred in captivity or artificially propagated for commercial purposes
*** For pre-Convention specimens

13. This permit/certificate is issued by:

Place | Date | Security stamp, signature and official seal

14. Export endorsement:

15. Bill of Lading/Air waybill number:

Block	Quantity
A	
B	
C	
D	

Port of export | Date | Signature | Official stamp and title

Sample

CITES PERMIT/CERTIFICATE No.

Instructions and explanations

(These correspond to the block numbers on the form)

1. A unique number should be generated by the issuing Management Authority for the certificate.
2. The date of expiry of the document may not be more than three years after the date of issuance.
3. Complete the full name, permanent address and country of the owner of the specimen covered by the certificate. Absence of the signature of the owner renders the certificate invalid.
4. The name, address and country of the issuing Management Authority should already be pre-printed on the form.
5. This block has been pre-printed to indicate the validity of the certificate for multiple cross-border movements of the specimen/s with its/their exhibition for exhibition purposes only and to clarify that the certificate is not to be collected but is to remain with the specimen/owner. This block also can be used to justify the omission of certain information.
6. This block has been pre-printed to indicate that cross-border movement is permitted to any country accepting this certificate as a matter of national law.
7. This block has been pre-printed with the code Q for circuses and travelling exhibitions.
8. Indicate the number of the security stamp affixed in block 17.
9. Indicate the scientific name (genus and species, where appropriate subspecies) of the species as it appears in the Convention Appendices or the reference lists approved by the Conference of the Parties, and the common name as known in the country issuing the certificate.
10. Describe, as precisely as possible, the specimen/s covered by the certificate, including identifying marks (tags, rings, unique markings, etc.) sufficient to permit the authorities of the Party into which the exhibition enters to verify that the certificate corresponds to the specimen/s covered. The sex and age, at the time of the issuance of the certificate, should be recorded, where possible.
11. Indicate the total number of specimens. In the case of live animals it should normally be one. If more than one specimen, state "see attached inventory".
12. Enter the number of the Appendix of the Convention (I, II, or III) in which the species is listed. Use the codes below to indicate the source. This certificate may not be used for specimens with source code **W, R, F** or **U** unless they are pre-Convention specimens and the code **O** is also used.
    - **W** Specimens taken from the wild
    - **X** Specimens taken in "the marine environment not under the jurisdiction of any State".
    - **R** Ranched specimens: specimens of animals reared in a controlled environment, taken as eggs or juveniles from the wild, where they would otherwise have had a very low probability of surviving to adulthood.
    - **A** Plants that are artificially propagated in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP15), as well as parts and derivatives thereof, exported under the provisions of Article VII, paragraph 5, of the Convention (specimens of species included in Appendix I that have been propagated artificially for non-commercial purposes and specimens of species included in Appendices II and III)
    - **C** Animals bred in captivity in accordance with Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.) and exported under the provisions of Article VII, paragraph 5
    - **F** Animals born in captivity (F1 or subsequent generations) that do not fulfil the definition of "bred in captivity" in Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.), as well as parts and derivatives thereof
    - **U** Source unknown (must be justified)
    - **O** Pre-Convention specimens (may be used in conjunction with other source codes).
13. The country of origin is the country in which the specimens were taken from the wild or bred in captivity.
14. Indicate the number of the export permit of the country of origin and the date of issuance. If all or part of that information is not known, this should be justified in block 18.
15. This block must contain the exhibition registration number.
16. Enter the date of acquisition only for pre-Convention specimens.
17. To be completed by the official who issues the certificate. A certificate may only be issued by the Management Authority of the country where an exhibition is based and only when the owner of the exhibition has registered full details of the specimen with that Management Authority. The name of the issuing official must be written in full. The security stamp must be affixed in this block and must be cancelled by the signature of the issuing official and a stamp or seal. The seal, signature and security stamp number should be clearly legible.
18. This block may be used to refer to national legislation or additional special conditions placed on the cross-border movement by the issuing Management Authority.
19. This block has been pre-printed to refer to the attached Continuation Sheet, which should indicate all cross-border movements.

SUBJECT TO 5 ABOVE, UPON EXPIRATION, THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE RETURNED TO THE ISSUING MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY.

STEPS FOR THE CONTROL OF CITES PERMITS

List of countries requiring a security stamp as of 30 November 2011 (CITES Notification No. 2011/052): Argentina, the Bahamas, Benin, Bermuda, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark (Greenland), the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Honduras*, India, Indonesia, Iran (the Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (the Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

that the permit…

- □ is still valid (an export permit is valid until six months after the date of issuance but some Parties use a shorter validity period; an import permit has a validity of maximum one year)
- □ was signed by permit applicant, if there is a space for the applicant's signature
- □ includes complete name and contact details for importer and exporter
- □ describes with accuracy the specimens included
- □ is a CITES permit and not a health certificate or another document
- □ is an original and not a photocopy or a duplicate
- □ is not falsified (i.e. that it was not changed after issuance)
- □ was issued by the correct Management Authority
- □ does not include errors (refers to the correct source code, the correct country of origin, etc.)
- □ includes information that matches content of shipment (correct species, correct number of specimens, correct description and identification mark, correct source code, correct country of origin, same content as initial export permit in case of a re-export)
- □ includes a security stamp if country issuing the permit uses security stamps (*)
- □ was endorsed at time of export and that number of specimens exported is confirmed on the permit

that the security stamp …

- □ was canceled by the signature of the issuing official and a stamp or seal (the seal, signature and security stamp number must be clearly legible)
- □ is authentic and was issued for the permit

SUMMARY INFORMATION ABOUT THE RED LIST OF THREATENED SPECIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) is the world's main authority on the conservation status of species. It is a membership organization which includes more than 1,000 organizations, as well as 10,000 individual scientists and experts. The **IUCN Red List of Threatened Species** (or Red List) is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of plant and animal species. It provides taxonomic, conservation status and distribution information on plants and animals that have been globally evaluated.

Species assessed in the **IUCN Red List of Threatened Species** are classified in nine groups, set through criteria such as rate of decline, population size, area of geographic distribution, and degree of population and distribution fragmentation. The nine categories of the IUCN Red List are as follows:

Categories of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species	
Extinct (EX)	There is no reasonable doubt that the last individual of the taxon has died
Extinct in the wild (EW)	The taxon is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalized population (or populations) well outside the past range
Critically Endangered (CR)	The taxon is considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild
Endangered (EN)	The taxon is considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild
Vulnerable (VU)	The taxon is considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild
Near Threatened (NT)	The taxon it does not qualify for *Critically Endangered*, *Endangered* or *Vulnerable* now, but is close to qualifying for or is likely to qualify for these criteria.
Least Concern (LC)	The taxon does not qualify for *Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable* or *Near Threatened*
Data Deficient (DD)	There is inadequate information to make a direct, or indirect, assessment of the risk of extinction of the taxon based on its distribution and/or population status
Not Evaluated (NE)	The taxon has not yet been evaluated against the criteria

SUMMARY INFORMATION ABOUT CITES LISTED SHARK AND RAY SPECIES OCCURRING IN AFRICAN WATERS

Sharks and rays on CITES Appendix II

(A) Basking shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*); (B) Whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*); (C) Great white shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*); (D) Porbeagle shark (*Lamna nasus);* (E) Scalloped, great and smooth hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrna lewini, S. mokarran, S. zygaena*); (F) Manta rays (*Manta spp.*); (G) Oceanic whitetip shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*); (H) Devil rays (*Mobula* spp.); (I) Thresher sharks (*Alopias spp.*) ; (J) Silky sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*)

CITES-listed Sharks by Range States as per IUCN Red List (as of 31 December 2016):

CITES PARTIES	OCEANIC WHITETIP	SCALLOPED HAMMERHEAD	GREAT HAMMERHEAD	SMOOTH HAMMERHEAD	PORBEAGLE	BASKING SHARK	WHALE SHARK	GREAT WHITE	SILKY SHARK	THRESHER SHARKS	DEVIL RAYS	MANTA RAYS
Benin	X	X					X		X			
Cape Verde	X	X	X	X			X				X	X
Cote d'Ivoire	X	X		X			X		X	X	X	
Gambia	X	X					X		X			
Ghana	X	X					X		X	X	X	
Guinea	X	X		X			X		X	X	X	
Guinea-Bissau	X	X					X		X	X	X	
Liberia	X	X					X		X	X	X	
Mauritania	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nigeria		X					X		X	X	X	X
Senegal	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Sierra Leone	X	X					X		X	X		
Togo	X	X					X		X			

SCALLOPED, GREAT AND SMOOTH HAMMERHEAD SHARKS
(*SPHYRNA LEWINI, S. MOKARRAN, S. ZYGAENA*)

IUCN Red List status:

S. lewini: **Endangered** (IUCN Red List 2007). Population Trend: Unknown
S. mokarran**: Endangered** (IUCN Red List 2007). Population Trend: Decreasing
S. zygaena**: Vulnerable** (IUCN Red List 2005). Population Trend: Decreasing

Distribution:

The three large hammerhead species range widely through coastal temperate and tropical waters throughout the world. The smooth hammerhead has a slightly wider range than the other two species. Because they are mainly coastal, with a distinctive appearance and a non-aggressive nature, they are a top diving attraction that can contribute to the economies of coastal communities.

Main threats:

Large hammerhead shark fins are considered one of the most valuable fins for shark fin soup. These species tend to aggregate in coastal waters, making them easy to catch in large numbers. They are especially vulnerable to overfishing, and slow to recover due to biological traits including late maturity and low numbers of offspring. Because of the high value of their fins and the low value of their meat, they are particularly vulnerable to finning, or cutting the fins off and throwing the rest of the animal back into the ocean. Hammerheads are also often a target of illegal and unregulated fishing, including fishing in protected areas.

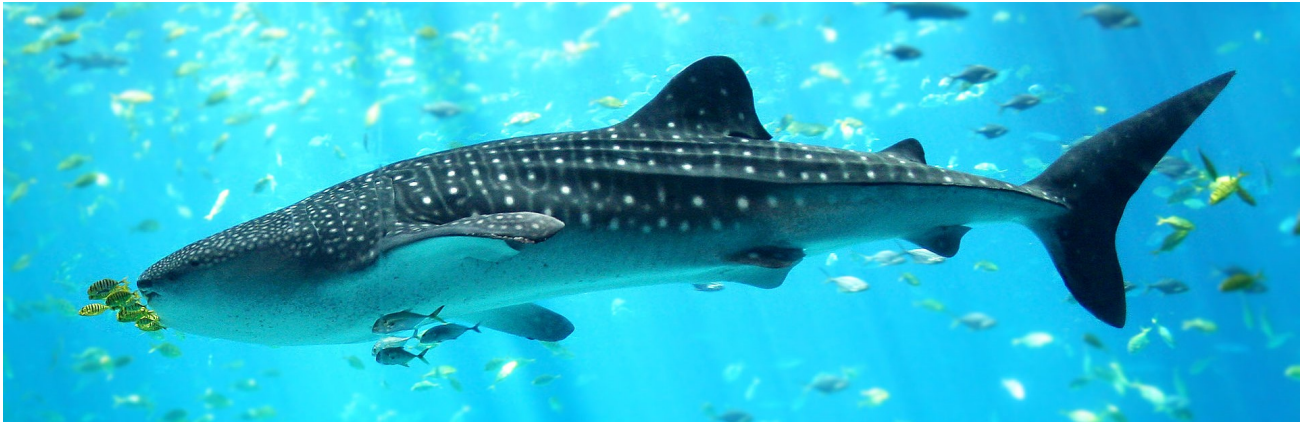
Form in trade and identification:

Hammerhead shark meat is consumed locally in some countries, but is not generally traded internationally due to its low value. Almost all trade in hammerhead products is in the fins. Hammerhead fins are easily identifiable due to their light coloring, large size, long length and short width. Because the fins of these three species are extremely valuable, they are often traded together but separated from those of other species.

Protective measures in place:

In 2010, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) prohibited the retention, transshipment, landing, storage and sale of these species, with an exception for developing countries that ensure that products from these species are not entering international trade. Scalloped, great and smooth hammerhead sharks were listed on Appendix II of CITES in 2013. In 2014, great hammerhead and scalloped hammerhead sharks were listed on Appendix II of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and in 2016 were also included in its MoU on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks (the CMS Sharks MoU).

WHALE SHARK (*RHINCODON TYPUS*)



IUCN Red List status:

Endangered. Population Trend: Decreasing

Distribution:

Whale sharks are located in tropical and warm temperate seas worldwide excluding the Mediterranean. Their habitat ranges from coastal waters to open seas up to depths of 700 meters. The species has been sighted at latitudes between 41°N and 36.5°S however, it is usually found between 30°N and 35°S. Found in water temperatures of 18-30°C although preferred temperatures are between 21-25°C.

Main threats:

The primary threat to whale sharks is the fin trade. Between 1995 and 2008 a legal fishery in Taiwan captured around 800 whale sharks. Previously captured by harpoons, they are now captured in purse, drift and gillnet fisheries. There is a lack of data for growth and maturation rates for this species however, it has been noted that this is a slow growing species with lengthy maturation. This indicates that the species would be slow to recover from population declines. In some circumstances, inadequate tourism could threaten whale shark conservation due to interference, crowding or provisioning. Marine pollution is also a threat when occurring in whale shark hotspots.

Form in trade and identification:

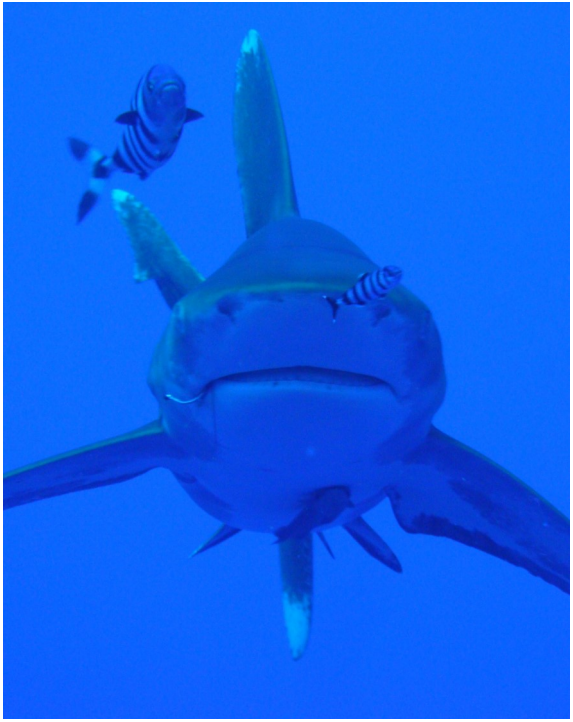
The whale shark is the largest fish in the world. It is easily recognizable by its unique body pattern of pale vertical stripes and rows of spots. It has a large, depressed head and a large terminal mouth. Whale sharks can reach up to 18 meters in length, however mature males usually reach around 9 meters and females 10 meters. Teeth are small and hook shaped with a strong medial cusp.

Meat, liver oil and fins are all utilized in this shark. Prices for meat cost around $2/kg according to market prices in 2001. The fins are large but of low quality, however these can still fetch a large price as they are used as signboards in restaurants in East Asia. An individual pectoral fin of a whale shark can sell for up to $20,000 and a whole carcass can fetch up to $30,000.

Protective measures in place:

Whale sharks are listed in Annex I of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). This species was added to CMS Appendix II in 1999, the CMS Sharks MoU in 2010, and CITES Appendix II in 2002. At the regional level, ICCAT prohibits settings of purse seine nets around whale sharks, and similar guidelines were also produced by and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) on best practices for safe release of whale sharks.

OCEANIC WHITETIP SHARK (*CARCHARHINUS LONGIMANUS*)



IUCN Red List status

Globally Vulnerable (IUCN Red List 2006), Critically Endangered in the Northwest and Western Central Atlantic. Population Trend: Decreasing

Distribution:

The oceanic whitetip shark is distributed worldwide in epipelagic tropical and subtropical waters (i.e. occupying waters in the upper zone of the ocean from just below the surface to approximately 100 meters deep) between 30º N and 35º S. Its range includes the western Atlantic Ocean from Portugal to the Gulf of Guinea, and possibly the Mediterranean Sea. In the Indo-Pacific, this species is found from the Red Sea and the coast of East Africa to Hawaii, Samoa, Tahiti and the Tuamoto Islands. In the eastern Pacific Ocean, it ranges from southern California south to Peru. Oceanic whitetip sharks are found in the following FAO Areas: 21, 27, 31, 34, 41, 47, 51, 57, 61, 71, 77, 81 and 87. (CITES CoP16 Proposal)

Main threats:

The primary threat to oceanic whitetip sharks is overfishing. They are especially vulnerable to overfishing and slow to recover due to biological traits including late maturity and low numbers of offspring. These sharks are mostly pelagic, and are often caught by fisheries targeting other species such as tuna and swordfish. They are retained because the fins of this species are considered one of the most valuable for shark fin soup. The high value of the fins and low value of the meat also makes this species particularly vulnerable to finning, or cutting the fins off and throwing the rest of the animal back into the ocean.

Form in trade and identification:

The main products in international trade are the fins. The fins of this species are easily identifiable due to their white tips and rounded shape. Other products may include meat, skin, liver oil, cartilage and teeth but these should not be prevalent in international trade due to their relatively low value, the scarcity of this species and the protections in place for this species.

Protective measures in place:

Because of steep population declines due to overfishing, prohibitions on the catch, fishing and landing of oceanic whitetip sharks have been adopted by ICCAT for the Atlantic, the IATTC and the WCPFC for the Pacific and the IOTC for the Indian ocean. Oceanic whitetip sharks were listed on Appendix II of CITES in 2013.

PORBEAGLE SHARK *(LAMNA NASUS)*

IUCN Red List status:

Globally Vulnerable. Population Trend: Decreasing

Distribution:

Lamna nasus is found in a circumglobal band of ~30–60º S in the Southern Hemisphere and mostly between 30–70º N in the North Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean (CITES CoP16 proposal). It is mostly found in colder waters, and in the Subregional Fisheries Commission (CSRP) countries it is only found in the waters of Cape Verde and Guinea.

Main threats:

The main threat to porbeagle sharks is overfishing to supply demand for both their meat and fins in international trade. Because of the high value of both products, directed fisheries for this species have resulted in worldwide population declines. They are especially vulnerable to overfishing and slow to recover due to biological traits including late maturity and low numbers of offspring.

Form in trade and identification:

Porbeagle meat is especially popular in Europe, and their fins are considered one of the more valuable for shark fin soup. The EU created new species-specific codes for porbeagle shark products in 2010 which have facilitated monitoring and identification. The fins have characteristics that make them relatively easy to identify, including a white patch on the lower trailing edge of the first dorsal fin. Fins from this species are usually traded in sets because of their value, and because they are unlikely to be finned because their meat is also valuable. Other products may include leather and liver oil, but they are not likely to be traded in significant volumes.

Protective measures in place:

The EU has not allowed porbeagle catches since 2010. Porbeagle sharks were listed on CITES Appendix II in 2013. Porbeagle sharks were listed on Appendix II of the CMS in 2008 and included in the CMS Sharks MoU in 2010. Porbeagle sharks are also protected by ICCAT conservation management measures.

THRESHER SHARKS *(ALOPIAS SPP.)*

IUCN Red List status:

A.superciliosus : **Vulnerable** (IUCN Red List 2004). Population Trend: Decreasing
A. vulpinus **: Vulnerable** (IUCN Red List 2007). Population Trend: Decreasing
A. pelagicus **: Vulnerable** (IUCN Red List 2004). Population Trend: Decreasing

Distribution:

Alopias spp. are highly migratory pelagic sharks, with an almost worldwide circumglobal distribution in tropical and temperate oceanic and coastal seas.

Main threats:

Common thresher sharks are taken as valued bycatch mainly by longline fisheries for tuna and swordfish, but also by driftnet and gillnet fisheries. Thresher sharks are also particularly vulnerable to overexploitation due to their slow life history combined with high levels of largely unmanaged and unreported mortality in fisheries. The meat and fins are both of high value. The largely unregulated shark fin trade therefore also represents a serious threat to thresher sharks. Finally, the establishment of tourism and recreational areas, oil and gas drilling and shipping lanes has negatively impacted common thresher sharks conservation.

Form in trade and identification:

The meat is highly prized fresh for human consumption and is also eaten smoked and dried salted. The fins are used to cook shark-fin soup, the hide is usable for leather and the liver oil can be processed for vitamins. Common thresher sharks are also one of the most sought-after species for recreational fisheries.

Thresher sharks were named after their very long tail that makes them very recognizable, the upper lobe of which can be as long as the rest of the shark. They have big eyes, a small mouth, large pectoral fins, first dorsal fin and pelvic fins. They have a small second dorsal fin (near their tail) and an anal fin. Depending on the species, thresher sharks may be grey, blue, brown or purplish above and light gray to white below their pectoral fins. They can grow to a maximum of about 6 meters in length.

Protective measures in place:

Alopias spp. were listed in Appendix II of CMS in 2014 and were included in the CMS Sharks MoU in 2016. These species are also regionally protected by ICCAT, the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean and IOTC. Additionally, at CITES CoP17, thresher sharks were listed on Appendix II with a 12 month implementation delay (entry into force on 4 October 2017).

GREAT WHITE SHARK *(CARCHARODON CARCHARIAS)*

IUCN Red List status:

Vulnerable. Population Trend**:** Unknown

Distribution:

The great white shark is found globally in temperate waters and, in atypical instances, tropical seas. In the East Atlantic they can be found from the Bay of Biscay down to South Africa. A broad habitat range but they occur primarily in coastal waters to a depth of 250 meters although they also range in the open ocean. They are not found in fresh water but they enter saline bays and estuaries.

Main threats:

Great white sharks' abundance is too low to sustain direct fisheries although it is caught in commercial fisheries by longlines, gillnets, setlines, trawls, etc. When captured they are especially susceptible to capture trauma limiting their chances of survival. Habitat depletion is also affecting this species. It is thought to take on average 10-12 years for great white sharks to reach maturity, litter size is between 2-10 pups and births take place every 2-3 years making this species susceptible to population depletion.

Form in trade and identification:

Is the largest predatory fish in the ocean and can reach a maximum length of 6 meters. However, females usually range between 4.5-5 meters and males 3.5-4meters. The body is stocky, spindle shaped with a conical snout. Dorsal color can vary from a grey/brown to black/brown; ventral color is white with a clear division on the flank. Tooth numbers vary from 44-52 in total and are recognizable by their large, flattened, triangular shape with serrated edges.

Although targeted by commercial and trophy fishing activities for their jaws and teeth, the great white shark's primary traded products are its fins. Fins are of high value, despite their low number of fin needles, fetching between $37-$86/kg depending on how they are prepared according to Asian market prices in 1999. Meat is sometimes used for human consumption; however, it is of low value.

Protective measures in place:

In 2002, the great white shark was added to CMS Appendix I and Appendix II. It was included in the CMS Sharks MoU in 2010. This species is listed on CITES Appendix II in 2005. Additionally, the EU Council Regulation No.23/2010 prohibits EU vessels from retaining on board, transshipping or landing great white sharks in all waters. Great white sharks are also protected by WCPFC and ICCAT.

BASKING SHARK (*CETORHINUS MAXIMUS)*

IUCN Red List status:

Vulnerable. Population Trend**:** Decreasing

Distribution:

The basking shark can be found worldwide in temperate seas with a temperature between 5-15°C, although it can also be found in warm water up to 24° as in New Zealand. They can be seen inshore at the surface to depths of over 1200 meters offshore. In lower latitudes they remain at a depth of between 250-1000 meters for numerous months without emerging to the surface.

Main threats:

Primarily threatened by directed fisheries and incidental bycatch in commercial and artisanal fisheries. Also sought after for the high value of its fins on Asian markets. The species is made vulnerable by its late age of maturity, long gestation period, long periods between gestations, low productivity, sex segregated populations, overlapping habitats with commercial fisheries.

Form in trade and identification:

These exceptionally large sharks can reach a maximum length of 12.2 meters long and weigh up to 7 tonnes. Males mature at around 4-5 meters and females around 8-9 meters. Dorsal coloration varies from grey, grey/brown, blue/grey to blackish. The ventral color is similar to the dorsal color but can be slightly lighter with the presence of white blotches. Lighter stripes and spots on flanks may be present. Basking sharks are filter feeders and can be distinguished by their large subterminal mouth and modified dermal denticle gill rakers. The gill slits are large and encircle almost all of the head. The snout is conical with a rounded tip and teeth are small, numerous and hooked. Caudal fin is lunate in shape with upper and lower lobes near equal in size. The pectoral fin origin is located just behind the fifth gill slit and the first dorsal fin is found midway between the pectoral and pelvic fins. The first dorsal fin is larger than both the second dorsal and the anal fins with a rounded tip. There is a wide space on the center of the upper jaw with only scattered teeth.

Historically targeted for its liver due to its large size and quantity of oil yielded (the liver represents 17 – 25% of total weight and contains a high proportion of squalene oil). The oil was used in lamps and to tan leather and is now processed for squalene used in cosmetics and medicines. Hides are used for leather, cartilage can be ground down in medicines and leftover parts are processed into fishmeal. The fins are large making them very valuable. A single pectoral fin can fetch up to $50,000. Additionally the fin needles of this species are known to be as thick as chopsticks.

Protective measures in place:

In 2005 basking sharks were listed in CMS Appendix II, and were added to the CMS Sharks MoU in 2010. In addition, this species was listed on CITES Appendix II in 2013, and is also listed in Annex I of UNCLOS.

SILKY SHARK *(CARCHARHINUS FALCIFORMIS)*

IUCN Red List status:

Near Threatened. Population Trend: Decreasing

Distribution:

The silky shark is a highly migratory species inhabiting common tropical and subtropical waters between 40° N – 40°S that can be found worldwide, in the east Atlantic ; it has been seen from Spain to Angola but the species does not inhabit the Mediterranean Sea. Silky sharks live in the continental and insular island shelves and slopes, deep-water reefs, and in the open sea. They are also occasionally sighted in inshore waters.

Main threats:

Silky sharks are probably fished either directly or as a bycatch throughout their range. They are caught in coastal longline fisheries, oceanic purse seine fisheries, and drifting FADs (fish aggregating devices) targeting other fishes, as well as by coastal artisanal fisheries. Whether caught purposely or not, silky sharks are often kept for their skins, meat and fins.

Form in trade and identification:

Due to its beautifully marked skin, the silky shark is a popular target for the shark leather trade. In addition, it is also fished for its fins, meat and liver oil. With over 1.5 million fins being traded annually, the silky shark is one of the three most fished sharks in the global fin trade.

A large, slender *Carcharhinus* species reaching up to 330 cm, the silky shark has a moderately long, pointed snout and large eyes. The species is characterized by gray to blue-gray on its dorsal top side, and white on its ventral side. The first dorsal fin is moderately sized and recognizable by its uniform grey to greyish-brown. The second dorsal fin is low with a greatly elongated inner margin and free rear tip. There is a narrow, low inter-dorsal ridge present. The pectoral fins are long, narrow, their dorsal surface is grey and their ventral surface is white. The tips of the fins are dusky with the exception of the first dorsal fin. The upper teeth are broadly triangular and oblique with serrated edges. The lower teeth are erect with smooth edges.

Protective measures in place:

In 2014, silky sharks were listed on CMS Appendix II and were included in the CMS Sharks MoU in 2016. They are also protected under ICCAT, IOTC and WCPFC. At the 17th meeting of the CITES Conference of Parties in 2016, silky sharks were listed on Appendix II, with a 12 month implementation delay (entry into force on 4 October 2017).

DEVIL RAYS *(MOBULA SPP.)*

IUCN Red List status:

M. japanica: Near Threatened. Population Trend: Unknown.
M.tarapacana: Vulnerable. Population Trend: Decreasing
M.rochebrunei: Vulnerable. Population Trend: Unknown.
M. thurstoni: Near Threatened. Population Trend: Decreasing

Distribution:

All species within the genus Mobula are slow-growing, migratory animals with small, highly fragmented populations that are sparsely distributed across the tropical and temperate oceans of the world.

Devil rays can be found in temperate and tropical waters worldwide. Some Mobula species have a restricted range, such as *Mobula rochebrunei*, found only in the Eastern and Southwestern Atlantic Ocean. Other species, such as *Mobula tarapacana* and *Mobula japanica,* are thought to be circumglobal.

Main threats:

The greatest threats to devil rays are unmonitored and unregulated directed and bycatch fisheries that are increasingly driven by the rising international trade demand for their gill plates for use in Chinese medicine, as well as for their meat and cartilage. These species are vulnerable to overexploitation due to their slow reproduction rate as they are among the least fecund of all sharks and rays, giving birth to a single pup every two to three years after a gestation period of about one year.

Form in trade and identification:

All mobulid rays have diamond-shaped bodies, wing-like pectoral fins used for propulsion, and five pairs of gill slits. Mobula rays are generally much smaller than manta rays, and can be distinguished by morphological differences in their mouths. Mobula rays have a bottom jaw that is undercut so that the edge of the lower jaw rests further back than the upper when their mouths are closed, whereas the jaws of manta rays are aligned evenly. The gill plate is the part most valued in international trade, with meat, cartilage and skins of lesser importance.

Protective measures in place:

All species of Mobula rays were recently listed in Appendices I and II of CMS in 2014 and were added to the CMS Sharks MoU in 2016. The Bern Convention and the Barcelona Convention list *Mobula mobular* as a species requiring strict protection. In 2015 the IATTC passed a measure to prohibit retention, unless accidentally captured on purse seine vessels, and mandate safe release of all Manta and *Mobula spp*. Additionally, Mobula rays were listed on CITES Appendix II in 2016, with a 6 month implementation delay (entry into force on 4 April 2017).

MANTA RAYS *(MANTA SPP.)*

IUCN Red List status:

***M. birostris* and *M. alfredi*:** Vulnerable.
Population Trend: Decreasing

Distribution:

Both great and reef manta rays (*M. birostris* and *M. alfredi)* have small, highly fragmented populations that are sparsely distributed across the tropics. In the CSRP countries, both species are found in Senegal but only the reef manta is found in Cape Verde. None of the other CSRP countries have either species in their waters. They are large, graceful and gentle animals, which makes them a top diving attraction which can contribute to the economies of coastal communities.

Main threats:

The primary cause of population declines for both species is overfishing driven by demand for their prebranchial appendages, called gill rakers or gill plates, purported in some Asian cultures to have medicinal qualities. These species move relatively slowly and tend to aggregate, making them easy to catch in large numbers. Because of their high value, the gills are sometimes removed and the rest of the animal is discarded. This trade is causing increasing and unregulated targeted fisheries for these species.

Form in trade and identification:

Though their meat is sometimes consumed or used as bait locally, it is not often found in trade. The main products traded internationally are their gill rakers. There are guides for distinguishing the gill rakers of these two species from that of other species of devil rays. Live specimens, skin and cartilage of these species are sometimes traded internationally but in low volumes.

Protective measures in place:

CMS listed giant manta rays were listed on Appendices I and II in 2011 and reef manta rays in 2014. Both species were included in the CMS Sharks MoU in 2016. In 2015 the IATTC passed a measure to prohibit retention, unless accidentally captured on purse seine vessels, and mandate safe release of all Manta and *Mobula spp*. Giant and reef manta rays were listed on Appendix II of CITES in 2013.

CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS WITH SHARK MEASURES

CSRP countries that are Parties as of 6 January 2016	CITES	ICCAT	CMS	CMS Shark MoU
Benin	X		X	
Cape Verde	X	X	X	
Cote d'Ivoire	X	X	X	
Gambia	X		X	
Ghana	X	X	X	X
Guinea	X	X	X	X
Guinea-Bissau	X		X	
Liberia	X	X	X	X
Mauritania	X	X	X	X
Nigeria	X	X	X	
Senegal	X	X	X	X
Sierra Leone	X	X		
Togo	X		X	X

ICCAT: International Commission for the Conservation of the Atlantic Tunas
CMS: Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
CSRP: West Africa Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission

LIST OF USEFUL CITES WEBSITES
Updated in December 2016

CITES

Global CITES website	*cites.org*
CITES Appendices	*cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php*
CITES text	*cites.org/eng/disc/text.php*
CITES Resolutions	*cites.org/eng/res/index.php*
CITES Decisions	*cites.org/eng/dec/index.php*
UNEP-WCMC CITES trade database	*unep-wcmc-apps.org/citestrade/*
CITES-listed species database	*speciesplus.net/*
Website of the national CITES authorities	*cites.org/eng/resources/links.php*
CITES Publications	*cites.org/eng/resources/publications.php*
National contact list	*cites.org/eng/cms/index.php/component/cp*
CITES Guidelines for transport	*cites.org/eng/resources/transport/index.php*
CITES species identification manual	*cites.org/eng/resources/wiki_id.php*

CITES virtual college	*cites.unia.es/index.php?lang=en_utf8*
Training materials of the CITES virtual College	*cites.unia.es/cites/mod/resource/view.php?id=58*
CITES trade data dashboards	*dashboards.cites.org/*
CITES information on national reports	*cites.org/eng/resources/reports.php*
Information on the CITES export quotas	*cites.org/eng/resources/quotas/index.php*
CITES guidance on non-detriment findings:	*cites.org/eng/prog/ndf/index.php*
CITES calendar and deadlines	*cites.org/eng/news/calendar.php*
CITES reference manual	*ssn.org/Meetings/cop/cop16/CITES_RefGuide.pdf*
The World Conservation Union Red List of Threatened Species	*iucnredlist.org/*
IUCN checklist on making non-detriment findings	*data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/SSC-OP-027.pdf*
Information on CITES trade in the European Union	*eu-wildlifetrade.org/index.htm*
International Air Transport Association	*iata.org/index.htm*
InforMEA (United Nations information portal on multilateral environmental agreements)	*informea.org*

CITES IMPLEMENTATION FOR SHARKS

CITES website on sharks and rays	*cites.org/eng/prog/shark/index.php*
Shark identification guides	*coaliciontiburones.org/?page_id=1199*
TRAFFIC report on CITES shark implementation	*traffic.org/fisheries-reports/ traffic_pub_fisheries15.pdf*
Factsheet on the CITES rules for introduction from the sea	*www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ia/agreements/ global_agreements/cites_page/cites.pdf*
Information on the CITES implementation work-shop for sharks organized in the Latin American region (with link to presentations and guides)	*oas.org/en/sedi/dsd/biodiversity/WHMSI/ SharkEvent%20.asp*
Shark database	*shark.ch/Database/index.html*
CSRP report: "Thirty Years of Shark Fishing in West Africa"	iucnssg.org/tl_files/Assets/Regional%20files/ West%20Africa/30years_eng.pdf
Video on the genetic identification of sharks (in Spanish with English subtitles)	*youtube.com/watch?v=Asuu4_7Kr0g*
Video on shark finning (English subtitles)	*youtube.com/watch?v=psb1s5Efihw*
IUCN shark specialist group	*iucnssg.org/*

IDENTIFICATION OF CITES SPECIES

CITES species identification manual	*cites.org/eng/resources/wiki_id.php*
CITES Identification Guide (free – produced by Canada – covers amphibians, invertebrates, mammals. Birds, fish and reptiles)	*ec.gc.ca/alef-ewe/default.asp?lang=En&n=35ED0E50-1*
Shark identification guides	*coaliciontiburones.org/?page_id=1199*
CITES species photo gallery:	*cites.org/gallery/species/index.html*
Information useful to the identification of crocodilian species	*crocodilian.com/cnhc/csl.html*
Information useful to the identification of turtle species	*eti.uva.nl/turtles/*
Information useful to the identification of seashells	*seashell-collector.com/identification_help/page_family_id.html*
Database featuring pictures of scorpions	*ntnu.no/ub/scorpion-files/gallery.php*
Database featuring pictures of wild species	*arkive.org/*

ENFORCEMENT AND CUSTOMS

International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime	*cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php*
Interpol	*interpol.int/en/Internet*
World customs organization	*wcoomd.org/home.htm*
The Green Customs Initiative	*greencustoms.org*
The Green Customs guide to multilateral environmental agreements	*bch.cbd.int/database/attachment/?id=10681*
The International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement	*inece.org/*
The East African Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (EANECE)	*us4.campaign-archive1.com/?u=0a75b87bdb95a77992965514 5&id=27ad2732a8*
Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora	*lusakaagreement.org/*
Compliance-Related Texts and Decisions of Selected Multilateral Environmental Agreements	*wedocs.unep.org/rest/bitstreams/35151/retrieve*

ORGANIZATIONS

Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations (FAO) activities in relation to CITES	*fao.org/fishery/cites-fisheries/en*
Sub-regional fisheries commission	*spcsrp.org/*
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas	*iccat.es/en/*
International Tropical Timber Organization	*www.itto.int/*
World Organization for Animal Health	*oie.int/en*
Born Free USA	*bornfreeusa.org*
Species Survival Network	*ssn.org*
TRAFFIC (wildlife trade monitoring network)	*traffic.org/*

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

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youtube**:** http://www.youtube.com/user/csrpvideo

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CITES Authorities in the United States

CITES management authority
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Fax: 1-703-358-2280
Email: managementauthority@fws.gov

CITES Scientific Authority
Telephone: + 1 703 358 1708
Fax: +1 703 358 2276
Email: scientificauthority@fws.gov
http://www.fws.gov/international/

Credit photo: Basking shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*) © Greg Skomal / NOAA Fisheries Service
Porbeagle © http://marinebio.org/species.asp?id=378

This document was developed by the Species Survival Network (www.ssn.org)